

BRITAIN IN PANIC OVER NAVY

GERMANY WILL HAVE 17 OR 21 DREADNOUGHTS IN 1913.

Ministry and Opposition Outbid Each Other in Scaring Parliament—Head of the Admiralty Indicates a Huge Demand for Cash to Build Warships.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 16.—In the House of Commons, to-day Reginald McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty, made an annual statement on the navy estimates before a crowded house. He stated that his proposals were of exceptional gravity from a financial point of view, but no matter at what cost the safety of the country must be assured and the limits of the navy must be fixed by the progress of foreign Powers.

Several of the Powers, Mr. McKenna said, were rapidly developing their naval strength, but none of them at a pace comparable with Germany. He gave statistics showing that the British Government had not set the pace in naval construction. He concluded: "Our chief difficulty is that we do not know at what rate Germany is building and when her programme will be finished."

Her programme will be finished, but we know all the ships provided under it are completed, will give them a navy more powerful than any in existence."

Mr. McKenna declared that he only referred to Germany for arithmetical purposes, and without expressing any personal feeling except admiration of her professional and administrative efficiency. Two years ago she had not a ship capable of being compared with a Dreadnought. Now she has fourteen vessels that could be thus compared and three others are being constructed.

What was true about ships was also true about guns, armaments and mountings. Germany's production had developed to such an extent, Mr. McKenna said, that it would take the resources of British firms to retain superiority in construction. If, as was believed to be likely, Germany accelerated her programme, she would have seventeen Dreadnoughts and Invincibles in 1912.

The Government must be authorized to place such orders as would enable it to meet those seventeen with twenty vessels of the fighting capacity of the Dreadnought and greatly superior to all earlier types. The day was coming when by an almost automatic process all vessels of an earlier type must go to the scrap heap. Then the maintenance of British superiority would depend upon Dreadnoughts alone. If Great Britain fell behind in this respect the Government could not insure supremacy.

Mr. McKenna's detailed account of Germany's preparations visibly astonished and impressed the House.

Mr. Balfour, the Opposition leader, said he approached the subject in no alarmist spirit, but for the first time in relatively modern history Great Britain was face to face with a naval situation so new and dangerous that it was difficult to realize all it imported. The programme of the Government was utterly insufficient and he asked the Government to use to the utmost the enormous resources at its disposal to restore not a two Power standard but a one Power standard in the matter of ships of first class power.

Mr. Balfour stirred the House by asserting that he had information that the Government did not possess, and figuring on this information Germany in 1912 would have twenty-one, not seventeen, Dreadnoughts.

Prime Minister Asquith, like Messrs. McKenna and Balfour, carefully disavowed the smallest friction with Germany. On the other hand, he said, the agency recently had been rather to remove than to erect mutual barriers. It would be asked then, he continued, why some arrangement was not made with Germany. The answer was that they had more than once proposed a mutual reduction of expenditure, but each time they were assured in the most formal manner that Germany's expenditure was governed by her own needs and her programme did not depend on Great Britain's.

He admitted they had no right to offer criticism or advice to Germany, but as the whole national life and security of Great Britain depended upon her security at sea they could not afford to get behind or slacken their efforts. He dissented from Mr. Balfour's prediction that Germany would have twenty-one Dreadnoughts in 1912, adding: "We have the most distinct declaration from the German Government that it is not the intention to accelerate the programme that way."

As, however, the Premier went on to admit that when discussing Germany's navy in a speech in 1908 he had made two mistakes on the wrong side from the British point of view, his assurance did not carry overwhelming weight with Mr. Balfour's supporters. Mr. Asquith concluded by admitting that Great Britain no longer had the advantage in the speed with which warships could be built.

The debate was adjourned. Members of the House discussed the sensational speeches in the lobbies with something near consternation.

LONDON, March 17.—One of the more important affairs of the Ministry of Admiralty to-day was the views of many advanced radicals, who had intimated their intention to vote against the Government's increased naval estimates on the ground of economy and the absence of necessity. An amendment in this sense will still be moved, but a large part of its expected support will be found to have been lopped off.

The press is electrified no less than the members of the House of Commons. Even the most radical organs of the so-called Little Englanders and Little Navvies are frightened into large typed editorial acknowledgment of the profound importance and significance of the Ministerial admissions, which they allow to be grave.

The Opposition press angrily accuses the Government of having through reckless inattention let slip Great Britain's naval supremacy and makes a demand for heads.

"The first thing," says the *Morning Post*, "is to get rid of the present Board of Admiralty, which has lost for us the potential command of the sea."

The *Times* exclaims: "This is in all conscience a very serious situation," but it takes comfort from Mr. Asquith's grave statement, and says: "Having regard to the Premier's character for steadiness and straightforwardness we take his declaration as clearly indicating a determination on the part of the Government to undertake any course of action, however reckless, in order to maintain the understanding alone the speech of the Premier, although sufficiently disquieting in one sense, may be regarded as not unduly reassuring in another."

COLOMBIA HOLDS UP TREATIES.

National Assembly Lacks Power to Approve Panama Deal—People Opposed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PANAMA, March 16.—Recent reliable news from Bogota confirms the reports that the National Assembly has not considered the tripartite treaties beyond their reading and passage by a committee.

Nicolas Esguerra, a prominent Liberal, supported by eminent lawyers, has presented an important memorandum protesting that the National Assembly was not legally authorized to discuss or approve treaties, a duty which was solely an attribute of the congress. Esguerra was arrested by direct order of President Reyes, who later ordered that he be restored to liberty owing to unanimous disapproval of the arbitrary proceeding. Popular sentiment was entirely in favor of Esguerra.

President Reyes has decided to call elections in July for members of a constitutional congress, which has been suspended since Reyes was inaugurated, five years ago. The general opinion among politicians is that it is a foregone conclusion that the coming congress will only approve treaties having Article IX, explicitly modified regarding Panama and Colombia.

PORTO RICO BUDGET DEADLOCK.

Special Session Adjourns Without Action—Game of Politics in It.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SAN JUAN, P. R., March 16.—The fight between the House of Delegates, which is composed of Unionists and the upper house, the Executive Council, which is composed of American heads of departments, over the municipal judge bill, a fight which is purely political, has resulted in the closing of the extra session of the Legislature without the passage of the budget. The Council conceded all it could consistent with its dignity and the public interests, but to no avail.

The budget was not passed at the recent session of the Legislature and Gov. Post called an extra session, to meet March 12, the leaders of the House assuring him that the budget would be passed. The House agreed to every item but did not pass the budget, holding it as a club over the Council to get the judge bill through.

The Governor will advise Washington of the situation.

AUTO TRAGEDY IN PARIS.

Car of Mrs. Watson of New York Killed Little Girl and Injured Her Sister.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 16.—A despatch to the *Journal* from Nice states that an automobile occupied by Mrs. Walter Watson of New York and her daughter ran over two girls, 10 and 11 years old, as Mrs. Watson was returning from their way home from church last Sunday evening.

The elder girl was killed and the younger is in a critical condition.

PARDO COMING TO NEW YORK.

Peru's Ex-President and Family Will Also Tour Europe.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CALLAO, March 16.—Among the passengers sailing to-day on the steamer bound for Panama were ex-President Pardo and his family. After visiting New York they will make a tour of Europe.

Señor Felipe Pardo, Peruvian Minister to the United States, was also a passenger.

Holland Steamship Co. Buys a Line.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROTTERDAM, March 16.—The Holland-America Steamship Company will take over the Furness-Withy service between Rotterdam and Baltimore.

FINDS PREHISTORIC TOWN.

Paved Streets and 300 Houses Discovered in California.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 16.—In the San Jacinto Mountains near the edge of the Coachella Valley B. F. Bond of Long Beach has just discovered the ruins of a prehistoric city containing over seven hundred well preserved stone houses, evidences of paved streets and strange earthenware of artistic types. The general aspect of the place shows that it was no mean community.

Mr. Bond arrived here to-day and after conferring with Charles F. Lummis and other specialists arranged to place full information concerning his find before the Smithsonian Institution. He has received assurance by wire that immediate and thorough exploration will be made by the institution.

He says the city lies within fifteen miles of Indio and not over five miles from Los Angeles on the Yuma stage road.

Bond's attention was first attracted by several gashes in the mountain side, and on investigation he found a series of heaped up stones. Approaching nearer through a rocky cañon, he found a series of streets lined with ruins of houses built on terraces. Another road led from the town to a high peak overlooking the entire country and surrounded by another stone ruin that evidently had been used as a watch tower.

What a Match in a Benzine Pot Did.

Charles Pucholsky, who is the janitor at 56 Heister street, as well as a watchmaker and jeweller, was mixing green paint yesterday noon when he accidentally threw a burning match into the benzine.

There resulted a fire that severely burned Charles's wife, Heister, and Charles Pucholsky, a neighbor, and destroyed fifty dollars worth of gold leaf before it was put out.

The Weather.

A disturbance central over the upper Lakes yesterday was causing snow throughout the Lake regions, Indiana, Ohio, western Pennsylvania and New York, and drawing warmer weather from Texas and the lower Mississippi Valley northeastward into the Ohio Valley, the Lake regions and western New York.

There was a low area over the extreme Western States, but it was accompanied by dry subsidence. Generally fair weather prevailed over all Western and Southern States.

It was colder in New England and eastern New York, in western Virginia and south into Georgia and Florida, as well as in the Northwest and Rocky Mountain States.

In this city the day was fair; a little snow flurry about midday; slightly cooler; wind, light to moderate, corrected to read to sea level, at 8 A. M., 30.16; 3 P. M., 29.99.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

1909, 1908.

8 A. M., 34° 48° 15 P. M., 42° 46°

9 A. M., 31° 41° 12 P. M., 40° 40°

Lowest temperature, 32°, at 4:30 A. M.

WIND DIRECTION FOR 24 HOURS AND TO-MORROW.

For eastern New York, eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, snow flurries and cold to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow; moderate to brisk westerly winds.

For New England, rain or snow to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow; brisk northwest to west winds.

For the District of Columbia, Delaware and Maryland, partly cloudy to day; fair and warmer to-morrow; moderate westerly winds.

For western New York and western Pennsylvania, snow flurries and cold to-day; fair and warmer to-morrow.

MORTGAGE LOANS.

MONEY TO LOAN

On Manhattan Real Estate.

Low Fees.

MOOYER & MARSTON,

26 Exchange Place.

WOMEN BUSY IN PARIS STRIKE

JOIN IN TELEGRAPH FIGHT AND HAVE NERVOUS PROSTRATION.

American Contribution to Strike Fund—Other Foreign Operators Help Obstruct Service—Cabinet Indorses Simyan—May Delay Mails to the U. S.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 16.—The morning's mails are delivered to-day as usual. The telephone service is as bad as usual. Telegraphic and telephonic service with London have been restored.

The Administration states that only 150 employees failed to come to work this morning. The General Association of Postal Telegraph Operators declares itself satisfied with the commencement of the strike and expects it to become general to-night.

The Cabinet at a meeting to-day fully approved of the conduct of M. Simyan, Under Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs.

One of the most interesting features of the strike is the part women are playing in it. They speak at the general meetings, hold meetings of their own and are the first to make manifestations. It must be noted, however, that the infirmity attached to the Grenelle station received forty of them suffering from nervous prostration after this morning's performance.

The telephone girls at the Rue des Renaudes exchange quit work this morning as a protest against insulting terms that M. Simyan, Under Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs, was credited with applying to the female postal employees. M. Simyan hastened to the exchange, going straight from the Cabinet meeting, which indorsed his course of action. He assured the operators that he never used the language attributed to him, and thereupon work was resumed.

Two postmasters found themselves this morning the only persons in their post offices, which they were unable to open until assistance was obtained later in the day. Ten others were compelled to close their offices. The mail train service is disorganized by the defection of the travelling sorters. It is doubtful if Wednesday's American mail will reach Cherbourg.

The General Association of Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Employees has posted placards accusing M. Simyan as the sole cause of the trouble. Among the receipts announced to-day for the benefit of the employees is \$5,000 from American postal employees.

According to the strikers' communication with Belgium, Italy and Germany has become very difficult because the operators in these countries refuse to handle messages properly, through sympathy with their French comrades. It is reported that the machines at the Grenelle station have been tampered with. It is difficult to confirm this, but the attitude of the officials when questioned on the subject tends to confirm the report.

Commercial and financial circles have already suffered sensibly. Only half the usual number of messages reached the Bourse to-day, and many of these were badly transmitted.

Even official despatches are suffering, and this condition is having an important effect, as the Balkan situation to-day is depicted by the French press in the darkest colors.

The strike has spread to several provincial towns and to Lyons and Nancy. The Rue Gutenberg Telephone Exchange, which handles all foreign calls, ceased work for some hours this evening. It then resumed fully. The officials deny that the trouble was due to the strike.

The number of employees suspended by the postal administration exceeds seven hundred.

Three largely attended meetings to-night voted in favor of a strike of the female telephonists and letter sorters. The National Union of Workmen of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones decided "to break all relations with the administration while the man who created the present anarchy is at the head of it."

LONDON, March 16.—It is officially announced that telegraphic communication between Paris and London stopped at 10 o'clock this morning. Attempts to reestablish it since then have been unsuccessful. Telegrams handed in at Paris offices yesterday reached London to-day some twenty hours late.

London's severance from Paris continued absolute until evening, when suddenly a wire to the Bourse answered signals and messages were accepted, but none of the other fifteen wires could be operated. The big accumulation of messages was reduced by midnight to fewer than a thousand by the use of the Bourse wire.

Three of the four telephone lines between London and Paris did not work throughout the day. Inconvenience was felt mainly by the stockbrokers, who, it is reported, lost many thousands of pounds. Big financial and commercial firms are sending important despatches by special messengers, finding the eight hours journey between the two capitals a time saving expedient.

Passengers from France arrived in London many hours ahead of the telegrams they had sent reserving hotel rooms.

A SAXE BOON FOR MAYOR.

Started by the Lighterage Men at Their Yearly Dinner.

Three hundred men interested in harbor shipping, who compose the Lighterage Association of the Port of New York, dined last night at the Hotel Astor.

The guests of the evening were William M. Calder, Judge William E. Green, Orlando Hubbs, Julius Mayer, William H. McConnell, Capt. Jacob W. Miller, Martin Saxe, George V. L. Spratt, George E. Waldo and George A. Voss.

Toastmaster William Simmons introduced Martin Saxe as the next Mayor of New York, and all the lightermen got to their feet and waved their napkins.

Mr. Saxe urged the improvement of the city's dock system and said that he didn't approve of the various subway and elevated railway schemes for the disposition of freight around the river-front.

WAR TALK; PEACE PROBABLE

NO AUSTRIAN ULTIMATUM TO SERBIA AT PRESENT.

Belerade Diplomacy May Win Its Point by Compelling a Congress of the Powers—Berlin Plan to Limit Hostilities, if Any—Duma Appeal for Peace.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 16.—A majority of the telegrams received to-night from Vienna, Berlin and St. Petersburg are couched in terms of extreme pessimism. They seem to regard war as all but inevitable. Nevertheless information which was gleaned to-day from the highest diplomatic sources, Austrian, Serbian, Russian and British, enables me to affirm a confident belief that peace will not be broken.

This view is also held in the best informed financial circles, with the result that when the gloomiest despatches were arriving this afternoon from Vienna the stock market rallied and closed strong. The reason for this improvement lies in the fact that Serbia's next move will probably be such as will disarm Austrian aggressiveness and leave Vienna no choice but to pursue negotiations peacefully.

The Serbian Government calculated correctly that its note delivered yesterday would not justify Austria in taking immediately the extreme step of sending an ultimatum. Count Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has met his match in M. Milovanovich, the Serbian Foreign Minister, as a diplomatic duellist. The latter's note was a masterpiece of evasion, but it was also a document which gave no excuse for military retaliation.

Moreover, it afforded Serbia another opportunity for putting her case strongly before the world, and this is the sole object of the present Serbian policy. Count von Aehrenthal will now put further diplomatic pressure upon Serbia to declare more specifically her peaceful intentions, and Serbia in response will yield to what is virtually force majeure. She will make this clear in such terms as she hopes will force the neutral Powers and even Austria herself to consent to a European conference. This would end the crisis for the present at least.

Meantime to-day's warlike reports include the following: Austria will send her reply within forty-eight hours. All the Powers will simultaneously deliver notes of warning at Belgrade. Austria has ordered the mobilization of 40,000 more men. The telegraph offices throughout the country are to be kept open all night and be prepared to receive orders for further mobilization. Austria intends to occupy Belgrade next week unless Serbia yields meantime. She expects to do this without fighting by means of a great massing of her guns which would make resistance suicidal.

It is of some importance in this connection to call attention to a widespread misapprehension in regard to a physical fact of the situation. It is the general idea that war in the Balkans is impossible until the snow melts. This is untrue as regards the hostilities Serbia and Montenegro would carry on with such an enemy as Austria. They could do Austria far greater harm now than a month hence, when large armies would become mobile.

If Serbia really intended to fight she would have begun operations before this, and Austria, powerful as she is, would have had a bad time of it against the native troops for some time to come. The real Serbian aim has been to force the world's attention upon the crisis in her destinies, and she has certainly succeeded.

There remains always the danger of accidents turning such a delicate situation into war, and this peril is a very real one to-day, but the chances in favor of peace are very strong.

There is good reason to believe that Austria's next step will be to make further representations to the Serbian Government, not in the nature of an ultimatum. It is also learned that Russia again has warned Serbia to abstain carefully from anything of a nature which might be interpreted as a challenge to Austria.

The Standard's correspondent at Prague states that the Austro-Hungarian Government has ordered that a night service be maintained at all the country post offices. Telegraphic orders for mobilization are expected to be issued to-night.

PARIS, March 16.—A despatch from Vienna states that Germany and Austria are about to sign a special convention setting forth the precise attitude the allied Powers will adopt in the event of an Austro-Serbian war.

According to the despatch, Germany under the terms of the convention undertakes to observe a benevolent neutrality as long as France does not take part in the conflict.

It is proposed that the Austro-Hungarian and German Ambassadors at Paris shall bring the convention to the notice of the French Government, accompanied with a request that France shall sign a similar convention with Austria regarding Germany.

VIENNA, March 16.—It is understood that an answer to Serbia's latest reply will be drawn up at a meeting of the Cabinet to-night and handed to Serbia to-morrow.

The *Fremdenblatt*, which is a semi-official journal, declares to-day that the Serbian reply of yesterday does not come up to expectations. It evades attempts at settlement and is equivocal. The aim and purpose of such equivocation is by no means dubious. Serbia means to gain time by sheltering herself behind the signatory Powers.

St. PETERSBURG, March 16.—A large number of members of the Duma belonging to the various parties have signed an appeal to the parliaments of the world urging a final attempt to prevent the universal calamity of an outbreak in the Balkans. M. Maklakoff, leader of the Constitutional Democrats, drafted the appeal, which declares that although Austria is indifferent to European peace justice cannot be ignored in international politics.

Nobody would be satisfied if force triumphed over weakness, and in such a case a European conflagration could only be postponed. Those who short-sightedly allowed might to conquer right would be responsible for the consequences, and the consequences would be so terrible that the Duma exhorts all parliaments to utter a warning and prevent Austria from making an irreparable step.

BULGARIAN ISSUE SETTLED.

Russo-Turkish Arrangement for Payment of Indemnity is Signed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

St. PETERSBURG, March 16.—The Russo-Turkish agreement regarding Bulgaria's payment for her independence has been signed. This finally settles the Balkan question so far as Bulgaria is concerned.

A good many

crimes are committed in the name of advertising. As is natural in the case of a comparatively new business method, many mistakes are made in the application of it.

On the Whole

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The circulation of THE SATURDAY EVENING POST is now in excess of 1,200,000 copies per week.

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY PHILADELPHIA

New York Boston Chicago

CUBAN RURALES IN REVOLT

PARTY TAKES TO THE WOODS, GOVERNMENT FORCE PURSUES.

Numbers of a Serious Mutiny in Santa Clara; Authorities Say They Have No News—Trouble Among Disappointed Office Seekers—Stocks Fall.

SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCHES TO THE SUN.

HAVANA, March 16.—The Governor of Santa Clara province reports that a sergeant of Rural Guards, with seven privates, have taken to the woods from Camajuani.

President Gomez has ordered the immediate despatch of a special train, with troops, who will be under the personal command of Gen. Montague, commander of the Rurales, to pursue the insurgents.

Loyal municipal forces are already in pursuit.

An ex-Captain of the Rurales at Placetas, who was dismissed by the new Government, has been arrested at Placetas, and Corporal Pichado and two civilians have been arrested at the neighboring town of Vuelitas for complicity in the uprising. Sergt. Heading, with seven men, went out because he wanted an army Lieutenantcy, which was refused. The President's secretary says the revolters are merely discontented office-seekers.

It is rumored that Col. Valle, who was dismissed recently from the Rural Guard, has revolted with 200 men in Santiago province, where the negroes are impatient for offices. It was stated at the palace to-night that no news of such a rising had been received there and that tranquillity prevailed everywhere. Telegrams were shown from different parts of the island offering to support the Government.

It is believed that the Government is intercepting press despatches from Santa Clara, the seat of the trouble, which was the scene of the first violence preceding the revolution of 1905. There is now much blotting there between the Miguelistas and Zayistas over political jobs. The improbability of the Government having received no news begets the belief that the trouble is more serious than it cares to acknowledge.

Local stocks declined many points on the news of the uprising.

HUSBAND AND WIFE SUICIDES.

Aged German Couple in Queens Found Hanging to Transoms.

Philip Detzel and his wife, Anna, an aged German couple who lived in a comfortable cottage at 565 Grove avenue on the outskirts of Ridgewood Heights, Queens borough, were found hanging from transoms last night by their son Andrew when he got home from work. Their bodies were cold, and it was thought that the couple killed themselves together soon after their son left the house yesterday morning.

The husband was 65 years old and his wife was 62. They were devoted to each other, but for several months both had been in poor health. Yesterday morning when the son left the house at 5 o'clock his mother arose and prepared breakfast for him. When he bade her good-by she appeared brighter than usual.

Andrew got home about 8 o'clock last night. He found the door locked and thought it strange, because his parents seldom went out at night. He finally broke in the door, and when he went into the kitchen to see if his mother had left supper on the table for him he saw his father hanging from the transom over the door leading to the dining room.

The son seized a table knife and cut the rope quickly. The father appeared to be lifeless, and Andrew laid his body on the floor, becoming frantic over the absence of his mother. He rushed toward her bedroom and from the transom toward her parlor and her bedroom he found her body.

While the husband and wife had deliberately planned to die out of sight of each other, they employed the same means. They cut the rope that had been used as a clothesline into equal parts and after tying the noose around their necks stood on chairs and apparently at a signal given by one or the other kicked away the chairs.

The son cut his mother down as soon as he could, and Andrew laid his body beside his father's he ran out and found a policeman.

The nearest hospital was the German, in Williamsburg, and it took Dr. Fuhrer three-quarters of an hour to answer the ambulance call. When he examined the bodies he said that both the husband and wife had apparently been dead for twelve hours.

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Grand Rapids Furniture Company (Incorporated) 34 and 36 West 32d Street Between Broadway and Fifth Avenue

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Price 15 Cents For Sale on All Newsstands

WEBB ACADEMY LOSES.

Hets Will Divide the Property at Broadway and Thirty-second Street.

After litigation extending over almost seven years a final judgment has been entered in the Supreme Court depriving the Academy and Home for Shipbuilders, founded by William H. Webb, of all right and title to a piece of property at Thirty-second street and Broadway, valued at about \$1,000,000, which formed part of Mr. Webb's estate. The heirs of Mr. Webb, who number fifteen, will eventually divide this property among them, but under the judgment now entered his son, William H. Webb, will enjoy for life the income from the property, which